

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 01256 150606Z
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EA-10 ISO-00 COME-00 INT-05 L-03
EB-08 DLOS-09 IO-13 /066 W
-----020154 150614Z /17
P R 150555Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9317
INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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PASS OIF/NMFS/NOAA/DOC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIS IWC-1 PE CI KS
SUBJ: WHALE CONSERVATION MEASURES

REF: A. MEXICO 2689, B. SEOUL 1144 (NOTAL)

1. EMBOFFS' ASSUMPTIONS PARA 1 REFTEL (B) BASED ON REPORT
IN FILES ON IWC 1977 PROGRAM WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN INCOMPLETE.
REQUEST FULL IWC PROGRAM INFORMATION BE INFOED THIS EMBASSY
IN FUTURE.

2. IN RESPONSE REFTEL (A), WE HAVE CONSULTED 1977 FISHERIES
YEARBOOK IN ATTEMPT TO VERIFY ORAL STATEMENTS OF OFA ADMINIS-
TRATIVE OFFICIAL. MEXICO IS INDEED CORRECT THAT ALL WHALING
BOATS ARE POWERED; HOWEVER, THEY DO OPERATE FROM POOR AND
REMOTE ISLAND AND COASTAL VILLAGES. ROKG HAS SET LIMIT OF
100 TONS ON VESSEL SIZE AND 100 MILES OFFSHORE RANGE ON
WHALING. 1976 FLEET WAS 24 BOATS, OF WHICH 9 WERE STEEL
(50 TO 100 TONS) AND 15 WERE WOODEN. FOUR OF THE WOODEN
VESSELS WERE 10 TO 20 TONS; TWO WERE 20 TO 50 TONS; AND
NINE WERE 50 TO 100 TONS. OF ALL VESSELS, EIGHT WERE OVER
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21 YEARS OLD; SIX WERE 16 TO 20 YEARS OLD; TWO WERE 11 TO
15 YEARS OLD; AND THE REMAINING EIGHT WERE 6 TO 10 YEARS
OLD.

3. RE POSSIBILITY OF TAMPERING WITH STATISTICS, EMBOFF
PERCEIVES CASE FOR HONEST ERROR. BUT INASMUCH AS EMBASSY
LACKS EXPERTISE TO TELL THE DIFFERENCE EVEN BETWEEN A WHALE

AND A DOLPHIN, MEXICO'S RECOMMENDATION OF VISIT BY SMALL
GROUP OF U.S.G. EXPERTS WOULD BE WORTHWHILE MEANS OF RESOLVING
DOUBTS.
STERN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WHALES, CONSERVATION
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Draft Date: 15 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Film Number: D780069-0088
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From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780252/aaaabrua.tel
Line Count: 66
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: addef2d8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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